

Abstract

Apparatus is disclosed for providing access to a functioning vascular system of a patient, the apparatus comprising: a main body having sidewalls defining an interior region and an exterior region, a bottom end and a top end; a base being formed at the bottom end of the main body, securing means being configured on the base so as to allow attachment and formation of a seal between the base and the functioning vascular system of the patient, and the base being configurable to provide a passageway from the interior region of the main body to the functioning vascular system of the patient; and a cover being formed at the top end of the main body, wherein the cover provides a barrier between the interior region and the exterior region at the top end of the main body.